Case 10: ⚜ A Certain Policewoman's Crime, Part 1

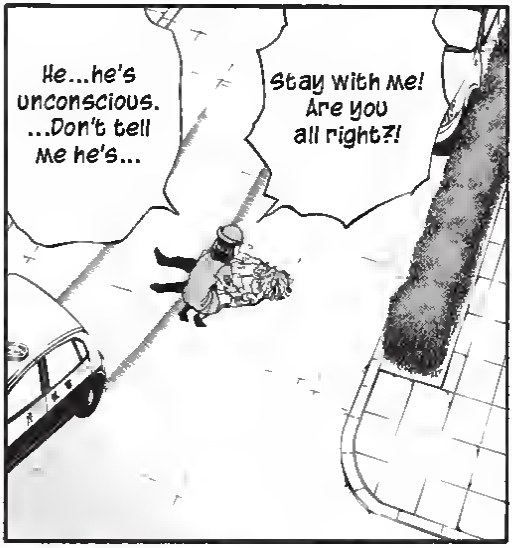
Oh, Chief Yoshida.
PAT
GRIN GRIN
Good work on the plastic surgeon case.
...
Hmph.
Munakata-kun!
Oh, it doesn't matter who solved it.
He solved that one all on his own.
I didn't do anything.
There's no way he solved that case on his own.
...Well, whatever.
I agree—that Wajima is undeniably dense.
...There's something more to it.
...
Detectives don't compete for credit.

MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
MUTTER
Not that... not that I'M upset about him showing me up or anything.
I'M not, okay?
?
I wonder if that has anything to do with it.
He always takes that adorable doggie to the crime scenes.
I'M most interested in solving.
That's the case
Look at this, Nanami-san!
You see all these illegally parked cars?

It's really awful, ma'am!
Yes, Kamoshida-sempai!!
We have to work hard to stop it!!
Exactly. Illegal parking causes accidents.
RRRING
!
A driver wouldn't be able to avoid him, ma'am!!
That's right. What would happen if an elderly person ran out into the street?
Policewoman
Katsuyo Kamoshida
Meanwhile, I'll go patrol the other streets.
Roger that!
VROOM...
Yes, ma'am!
THESE, RIGHT?
PARKING VIOLATION
FWIP
Well, Nanami-san, you take care of things here.
Put a parking ticket on each and every one of these windshields!

He seemed like a very nice man.
VROOM
ブォン
And I think he would let me keep working after we're married...
...
I've got a text.
I wonder if it's about the marriage interview I had the other day?
GASP
This is why I hate smart phones...
Ugh, this is so annoying!!
Ergh, I can't see my text!
STAGGER...
Aaaaaaaahhh!!

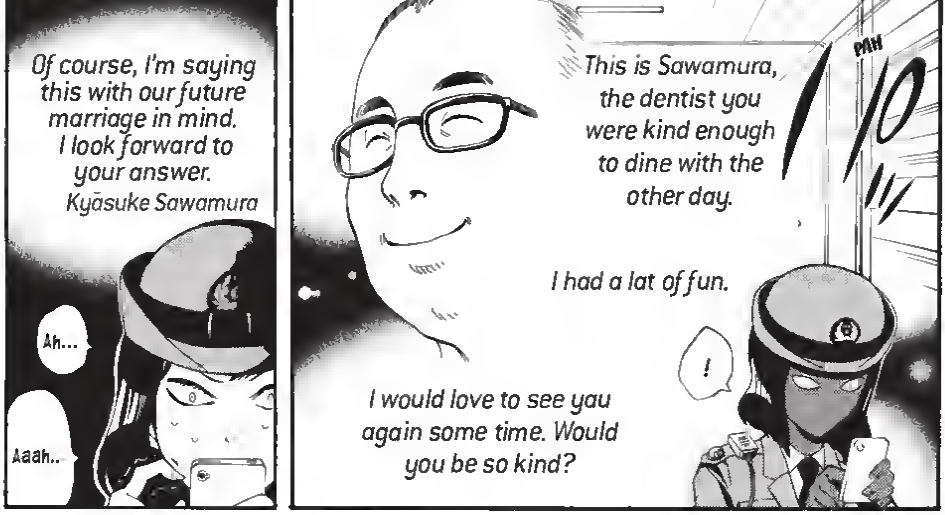
WHAM
LONDON 20
A-9314

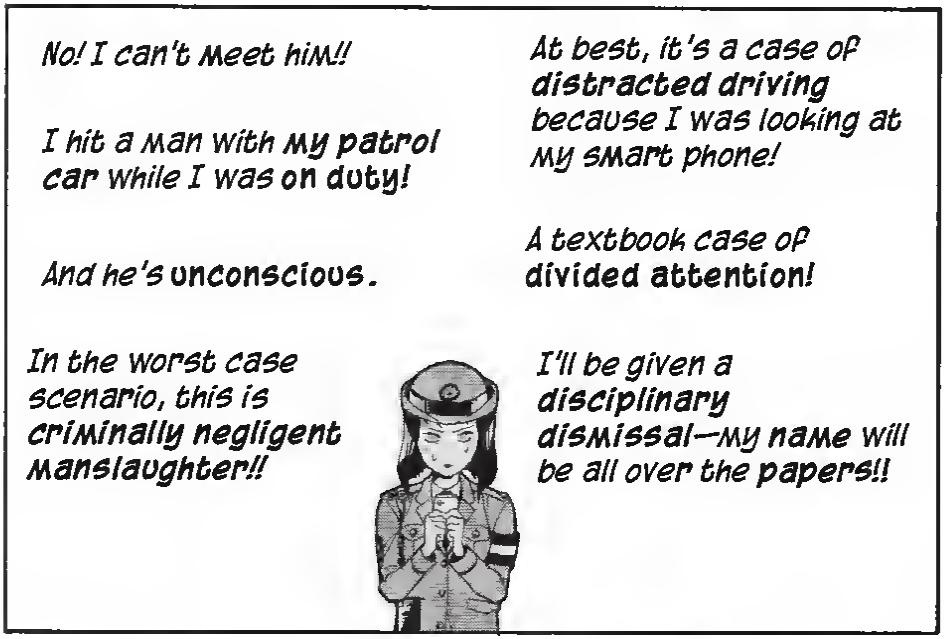

He...he's unconscious. ...Don't tell me he's...
Stay with me! Are you all right?!

I...I HIT HIM...
I HIT A MAN... WITH A POLICE CAR...

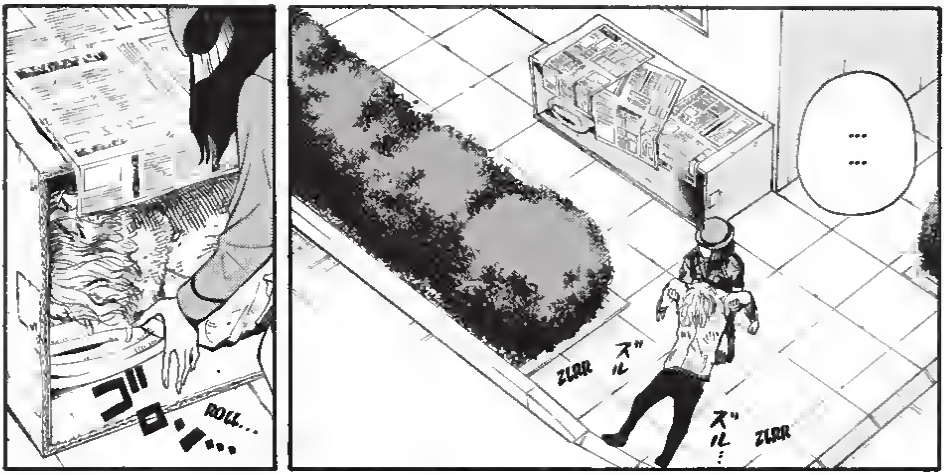
But if he hit his head...I need to hurry...
SWIPE SWIPE

Oh good, he has a pulse!
...


Of course, I'm saying this with our future marriage in mind. I look forward to your answer.
Kyāsuke Sawamura
Ah...
Aaah..
This is Sawamura, the dentist you were kind enough to dine with the other day.
PHH
I had a lat of fun.
I would love to see yau again some time. Would you be so kind?
!


No! I can't meet him!!
I hit a man with my patrol car while I was on duty!
And he's unconscious.
In the worst case scenario, this is criminally negligent manslaughter!!
At best, it's a case of distracted driving because I was looking at my smart phone!
A textbook case of divided attention!
I'll be given a disciplinary dismissal—my name will be all over the papers!!

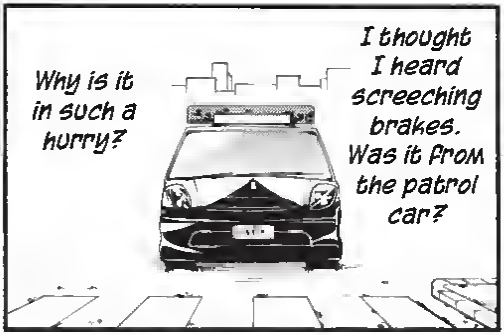
...
I have to do something...
What do I do? What can I do?


ゴロ…
ROLL...
...
...
ZLRR
ズル
ズル…
ZLRR

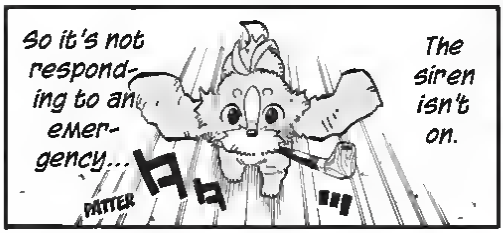
The only cars are parked in the street.
There aren't any businesses on this road.
And there are almost zero passers-by on foot or in vehicles.
I should have five or ten minutes. That's enough time to hide him.

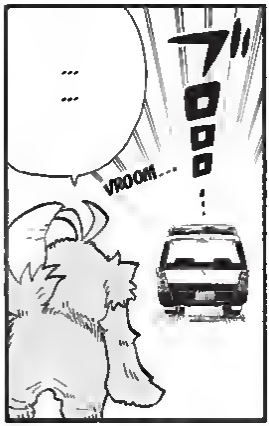
It will take about three minutes to go around the block...
VRRR
GAH
And then...

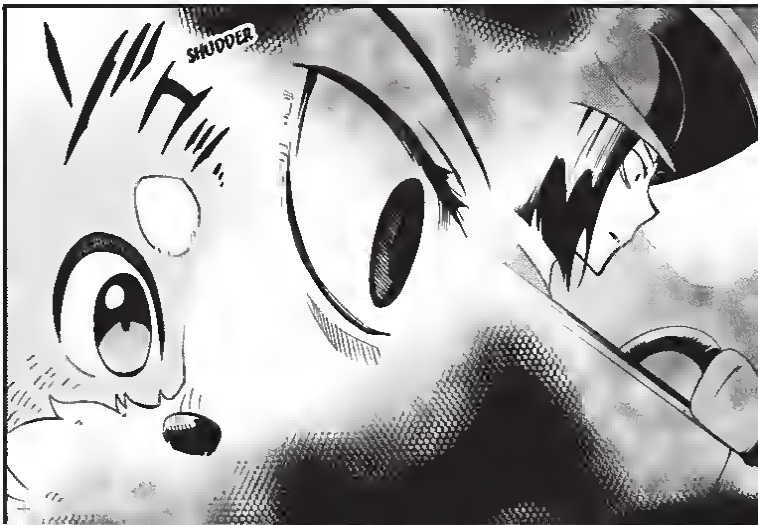
GASP
SKREE

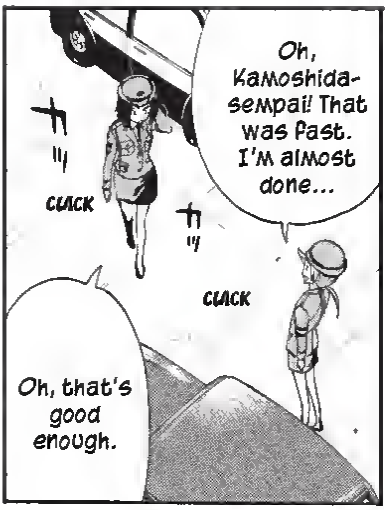

Why is it in such a hurry?
I thought I heard screeching brakes. Was it from the patrol car?

I know this place is good, but do I have to come all the way...
...
...

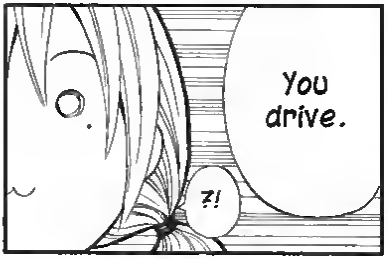

So it's not responding to an emergency...
PATTER
The siren isn't on.


...
...
VROOM...


SHUDDER


Oh, Kamoshida-sempai! That was fast. I'm almost done...
CLACK
CLACK
Oh, that's good enough.

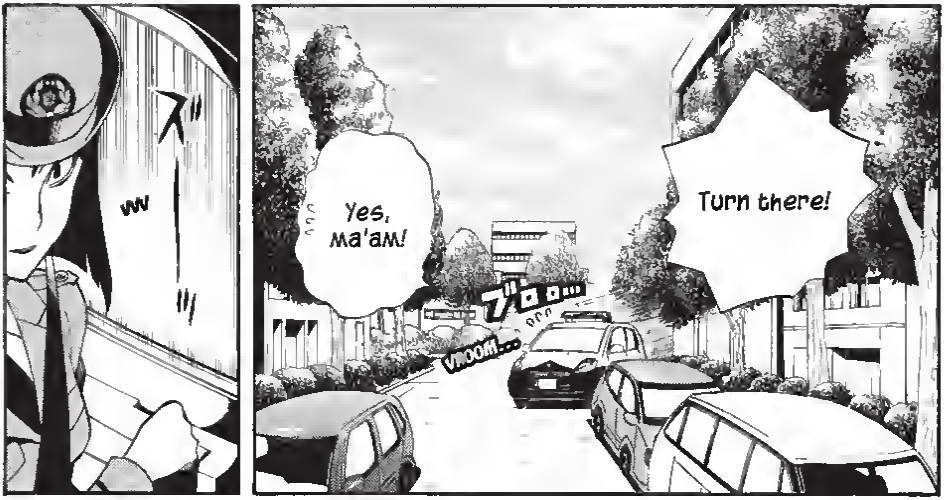
SKRRRE
Nanami-san.
SHUT

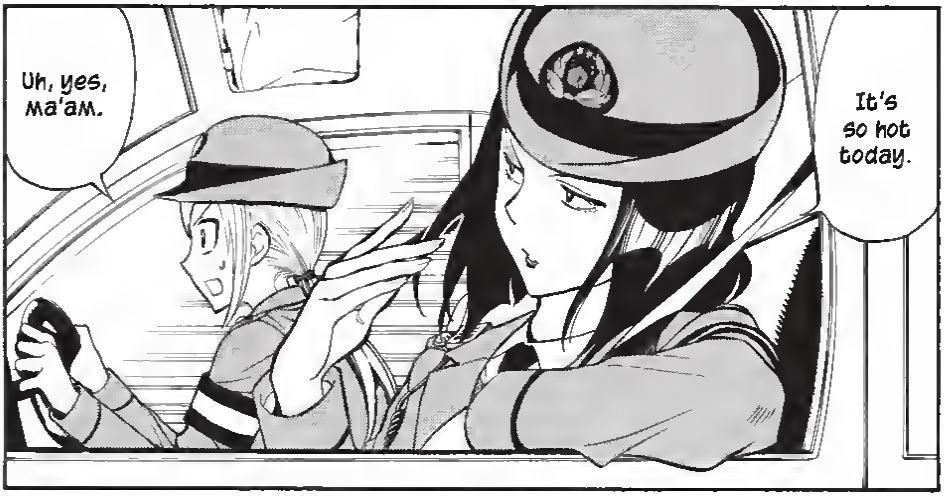

You drive.
?!

We have to make proper use of you eventually!
That's exactly why you should drive!
SHOVE SHOVE
Huh...? But I only just got my license...

Y-yes, ma'am!
PRESS
You'll have to drive fast in an emergency!!
Step on the gas!

Y...yes, ma'am...
おそる おそる
TUMID TUMID
Just do what I say, and you'll be fine.
SHUT


Yes, ma'am!
Turn there!
VROOM...

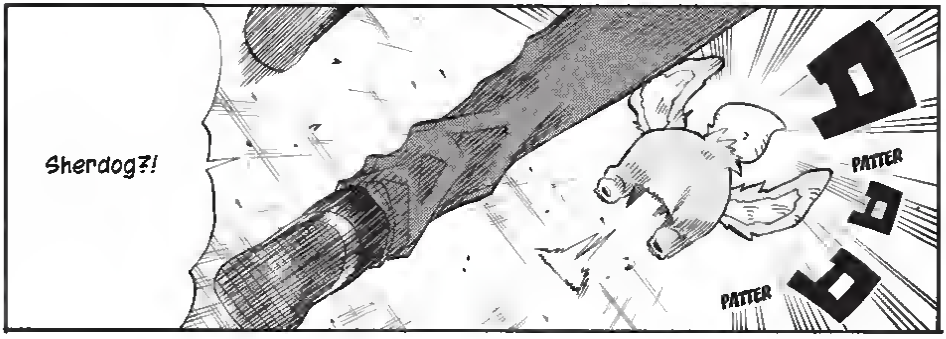

Uh, yes, ma'am.
It's so hot today.

Now!!
GLANCE
Yes, ma'am!
You should be checking your mirrors about 20% of the time you're driving.
Are you using your rearview mirror?

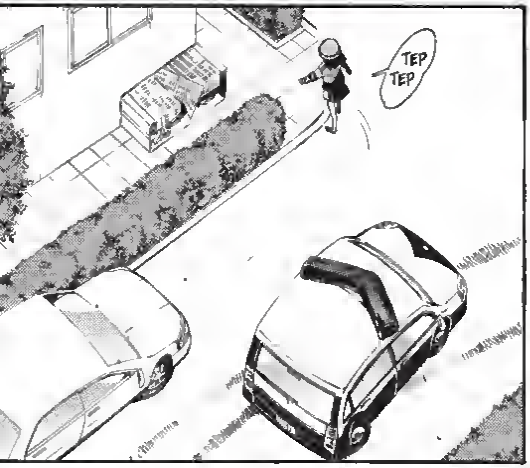
Stop! Hit the brakes!!
Huh? Eek...!
What was that...?
SMIRK...
...
TSS
Wha...
GNN
THUMP

Did you hear that?
TMP
Huh? Yeah, it sounded like someone slamming their brakes...

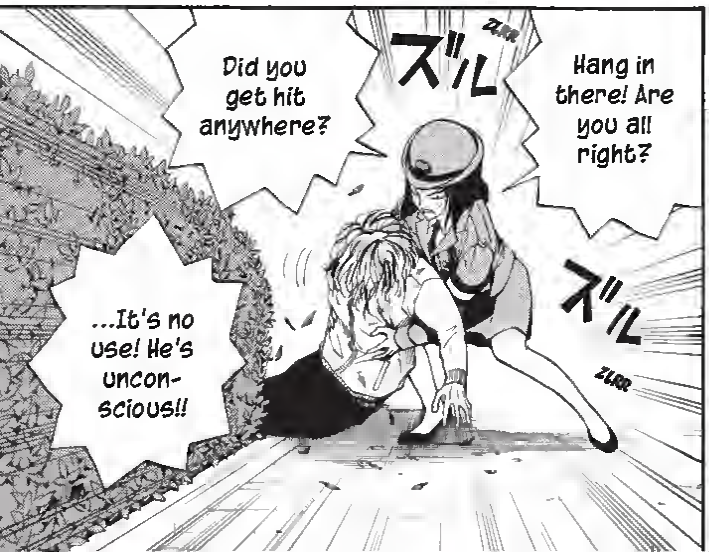
Let's go, Watson!
Huh...? H-hold on...

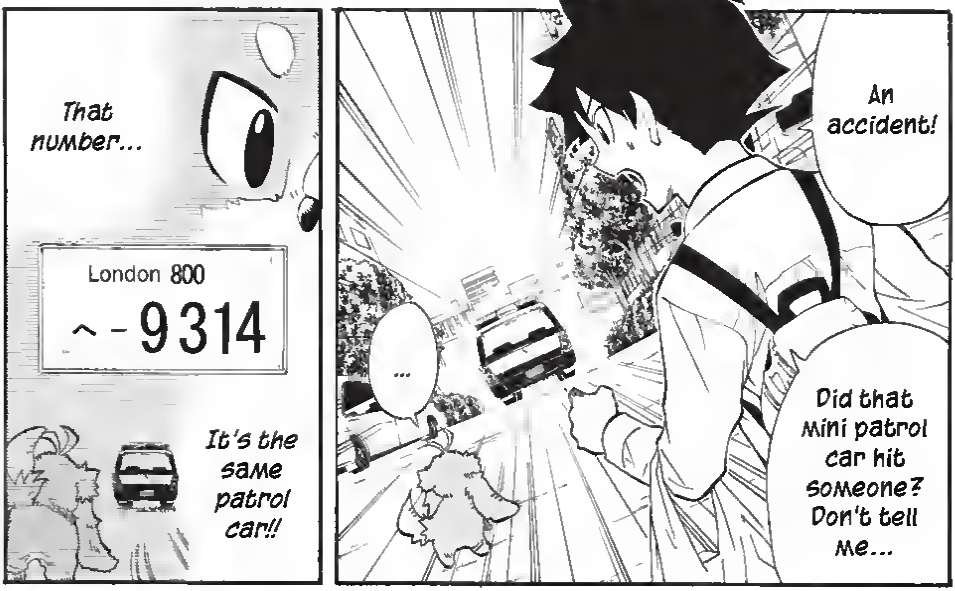

Sherdog?!
PATTER
PATTER

...There was a thump... wasn't there?
Yes... Someone jumped out.
You stay in the car.


TEP TEP

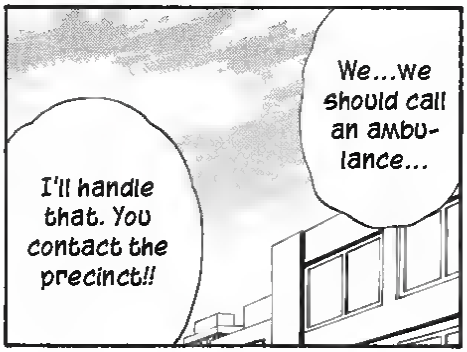
D-DID I H...HIT... HIT...
Just stay here!!


Did you get hit anywhere?
Hang in there! Are you all right?
...It's no use! He's uncon-scious!!


That number...
London 800
~-9314
It's the same patrol car!!
An accident!
...
Did that Mini patrol car hit someone? Don't tell me...

Is...is he...dead, Kamoshida-sempai?
It's all right. He's not dead.

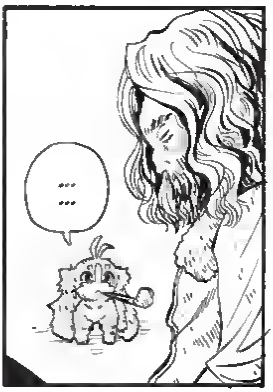
What happened?


We...we should call an ambulance...
I'll handle that. You contact the precinct!!

Wajima-kun!!
N-Nanami?!
Don't tell me you hit somebody?!

Calm down, and pull yourself together! Tell me exactly what happened.
...
Yes, we're at...

SOB
I hit someone...
Wajima-kun... I...


...
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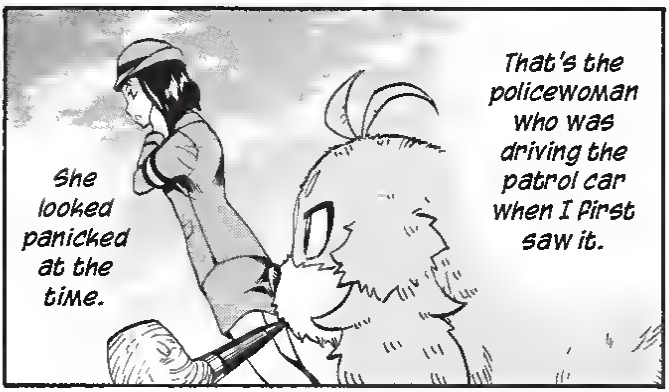
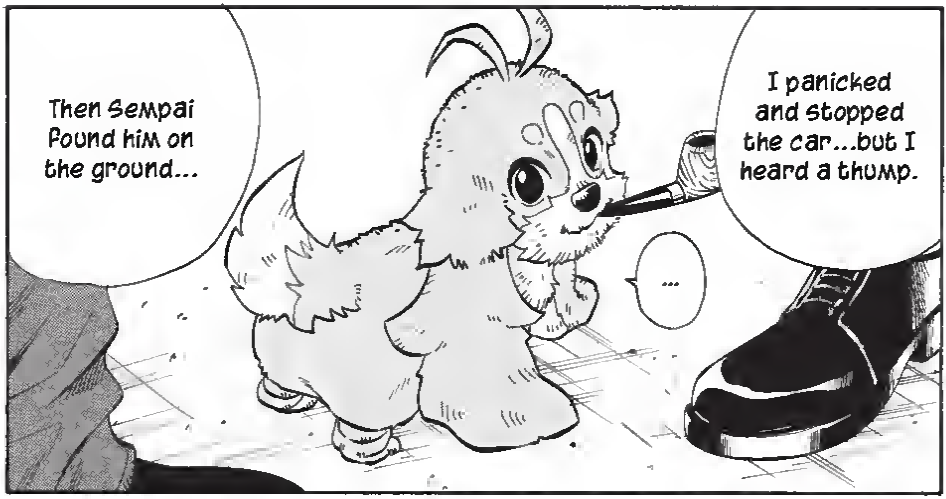
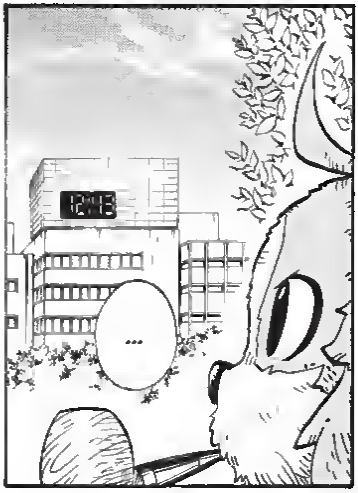

She looked panicked at the time.
That's the policewoman who was driving the patrol car when I first saw it.

That means this patrol car came by here twice.
The intersection where I first saw her is just up ahead.
A mere five minutes ago, she was driving that same car past this exact spot.
And with a singularly wan expression...
How could I be so stupid...? Kamoshida-sempai told me to check my rearview mirrors.
I looked away for less than a second... then Sempai told me to hit the brakes...


Then Sempai found him on the ground...
I panicked and stopped the car...but I heard a thump.
...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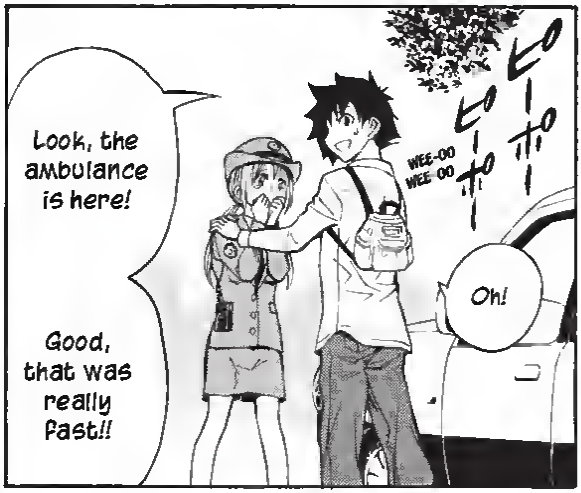
Look, the ambulance is here!
Good, that was really fast!!
WEE-OO WEE-OO
Oh!

There's something unnatural about this case.
Huh?

This is no time for lunch, Watson.
Sorry, Sherdog, but could you carry these lunches back to the...
I guess you can't. Never mind.

I suspect that Miss Nanami
is not the driver who hit the man.